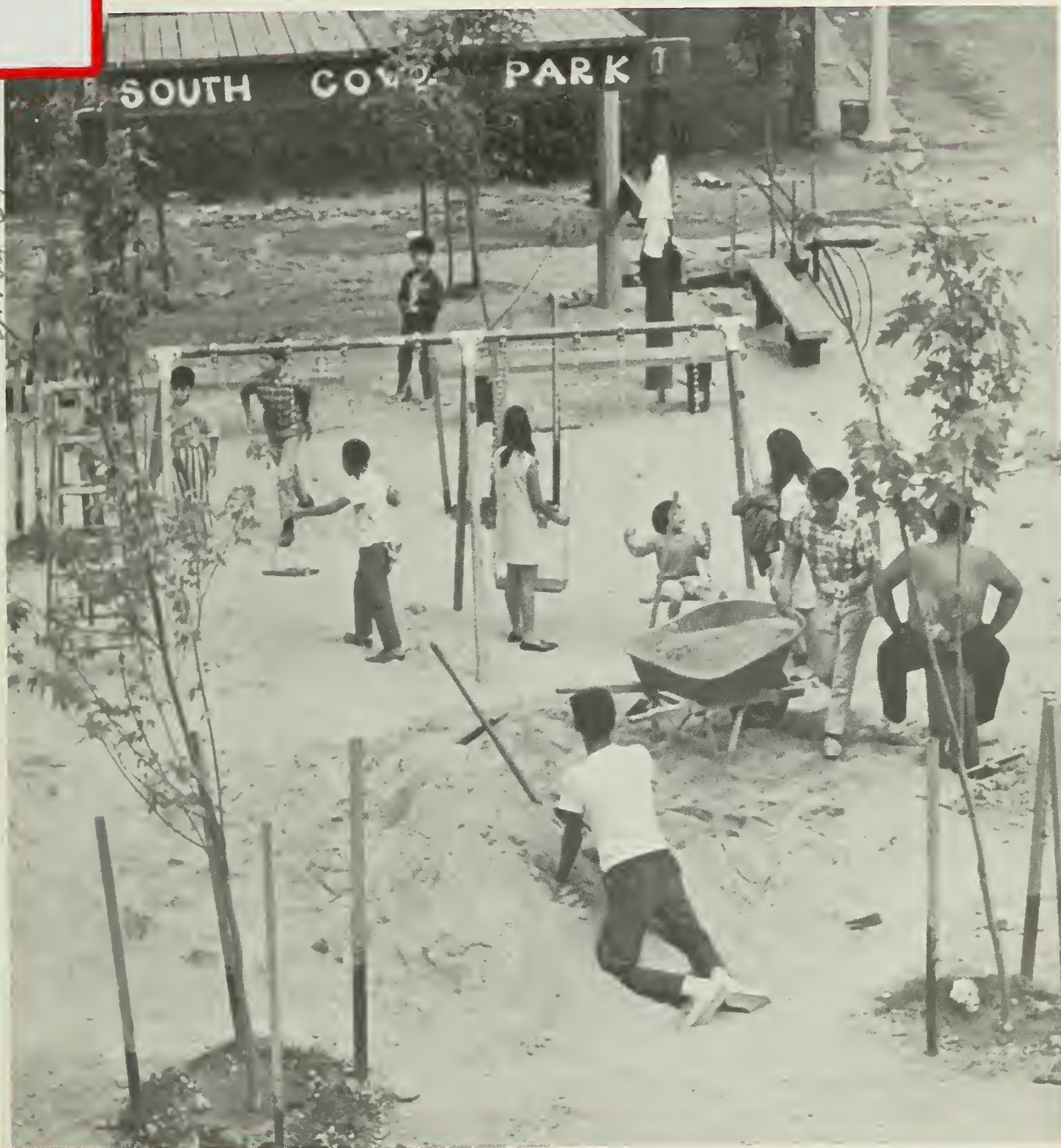


# BOSTON SUMMER PROGRAM 1968 / 1969

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From 28 college-age volunteers painting homes in Washington Park in 1964 to more than 300 high school and college students helping beautify six of Boston's urban renewal areas.

That's how the Boston Summer Program of the Boston Redevelopment Authority has grown in just five summers.

In 1968, the students performed a wide variety of tasks throughout the City. In the Fens they bordered pathways with cobblestones and cleaned debris from Muddy River. In South Cove, they transformed a desolate lot into a sparkling playground. In Charlestown, students did yeoman work in cleaning vacant lots, and, at popular demand, the program was extended six months.

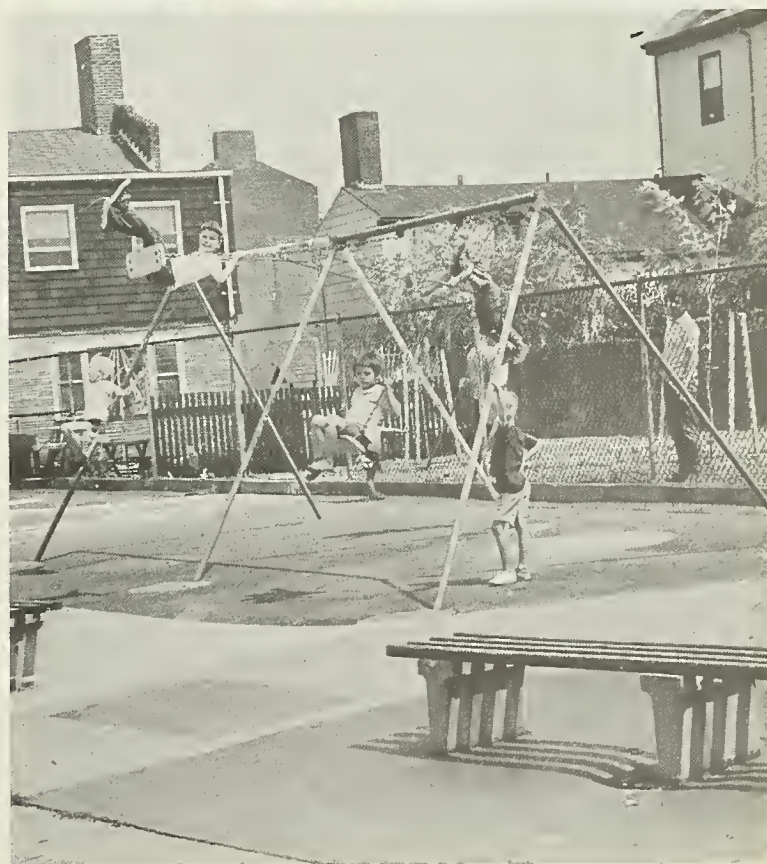
In the South End, work crews helped low-income residents rehabilitate their homes and re-located a playground. Students in Madison Park and in the Roxbury Work Study Program constructed major play structures in neighborhood lots. And in Washington Park, black youths conducted a highly successful anti-junk campaign, hauling away scores of truck loads of clutter from hundreds of homes.

Community improvement was the major thrust of the Summer Program, but personal rewards of participation in the program were great. Students earned wages which helped pay college expenses. They gained new friendships, a new knowledge of people of different races and backgrounds, a new understanding of urban problems. And, perhaps most important, they gained the sense of accomplishment that comes from making a positive contribution to the community.

The prospects for the 1969 Summer Program are limited only by the needs of the community and the investment that individuals, civic organizations and business leaders are willing to make in the youth of Boston. Student wages are paid by the Boston Redevelopment Authority through funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. But the scholarship program for needy college youth, the cultural enrichment program, and community recreation, art and tutorial programs — all integral parts of the Summer Program — depend on private funds.

With the financial support of the community we have been able to meet these needs and provide an exciting and rewarding program for hundreds of Boston youth. In 1968, for example, 41 scholarships went to needy black college students, thanks to the generosity of private donors.

The Boston Summer Program of the Boston Redevelopment Authority is a venture which brings together students, community and agency in an annual undertaking which provides participants a chance for service and growth.





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